

Local sites to become new park

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President signs order
protecting WWII
segregation center
and CCC camp

By LEE JUILLERAT
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TULELAKE — A portion of the former Tule Lake Segregation-Detention Center near Newell and a former Civilian Conservation Camp near Tulelake will be protected as part of the national park system.

The World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument was created Friday when President George Bush signed an executive order.

The Tulelake Basin sites will be on federal lands, including 18 acres at Newell and a smaller area at Tulelake. Officials from Lava Beds National Monument and the Klamath Basin Refugees Complex, the agencies that will manage the park, have not received maps detailing its boundaries.

In his proclamation establishing the monument, which has been rumored as a possibility for weeks, Bush said the Tulelake Basin sites will bring increased understanding of the high price paid by some Americans on the homefront.

See PARK, page A5

More info

For a copy of the proclamation creating the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument see www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/12/20081205.html. To see the park's still-developing Web site visit https://pwrcms.nps.gov/customcf/apps/ww2ip/dsp_monuments.cfm.

Coming Sunday

See Sunday's Region page in the Herald and News for historic photos, plus more reaction to the new national park.

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Efforts to create a park at the site started in the 1990s

Klamath Basin since the 1970s, with the next set for July 2009. "My work is done. Now I can relax," said Jimi Yamaichi, who led efforts to obtain protective status for the camp.

Yamaichi was 19 when he and his family were among 18,000 Japanese Americans eventually held at Tule Lake. At age 86, he is among the few survivors.

Another survivor, Tule Lake Committee President Hiroshi Shimizu, was a young boy while efforts to create a state or national park started in the 1990s by the Tule Lake Committee, a group of Japanese Americans who were held at the Tule Lake center from 1942 to 1945. The group has organized pilgrimages to the

Creating a park

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Shino said. "It's a story that needs to be told."